

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RANGOO 03072 011039Z

51

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FS-01 OPR-01 RSC-01 /014 W

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R 010900Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8731

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE RANGOON 3072

BANGKOK FOR FADPC; DEPARTMENT FOR EA/EX

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFIN BM

SUBJ: AUTOMATION OF PAYROLL

1. ACCORDING TO ITS CHAIRMAN, THE UNION OF BURMA BANK BASICALLY IS AGREEABLE TO PAY SYSTEM DISCUSSED YOUR RECENT VISIT. HOWEVER, BANK ATTACHES IMPORTANT PROVISIO THAT PRIOR TO CASHING, CHECK MUST BE CLEARED BY CONTROLLER OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE. THIS PROCEDURE IS SUPPOSED TO INVOLVE ONLY TWO DAYS BUT OUR EXPERIENCE SHOWS THAT PROCESS USUALLY RUNS INTO THREE TO FIVE DAYS; THEREFORE, TIME LAG UNPREDICTABLE WHICH IN TURN WILL AFFECT PAYROLL SCHEDULE.

2. IN ADDITION TO POSSIBILITY OF PROCEDURAL DELAY, WE ARE ALSO CONCERNED OVER BURMESE HYPERSENSITIVITY TO ANY SUGGESTION OF LINKAGE OR SUBORDINATION TO THAILAND. IRRATIONAL THOUGH THEY ARE, THESE FEELINGS COULD BE A FACTOR IN BURMESE REACTION, PARTICULARLY AMONG ATAVISTIC AND UNSOPHISTICATED MILITARY ELEMENTS IN GUB WHO SEEM STILL SOMETIMES TO CLASS THAILAND AMONG BURMA'S POTENTIAL ENEMIES.

3. WE ACCEPT YOUR TAKEOVER AMERICAN PAYROLL, WHICH WOULD BE ADMINISTERED ENTIRELY IN HOUSE, BUT, IN VIEW ABOVE POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATIONS, WOULD STRONGLY PREFER THAT LOCAL PAYROLL AND OTHER FINANCIAL PLANS YOU CONTEMPLATE FOR RANGOON BE HELD IN ABEYANCE.

OSBORN

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Message Attributes

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